

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2814

EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV OCON RH ZA
SUBJ: RHODESIA: ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ALL-PARTIES
CONFERENCE

REF: PRETORIA 4614

1. FOLLOWING ARE ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATIONS ADDITIONAL TO
THOSE SUBMITTED BY BRITISH HICOM AND WOULD PERTAIN SHOULD ALL-
PARTIES CONFERENCE BE HELD AT LUANGWA NATIONAL PARK.

2. AIRFIELD: LUANGWA SOUTH AIRPORT IS 7218 FEET LONG,
HARD SURFACED, WITH A LOAD CAPACITY OF LCN 75. IT IS
ADEQUATE FOR BOEING 737, SMALLER JETS, AND PROBABLY VC-10,
THOUGH PROBABLY NOT FOR 707 AIRCRAFT. THE AIRPORT HAS
ELECTRIC POWER FROM AN UNRELIABLE GENERATOR WHICH IS OFTEN
OUT OF SERVICE. ANY AIRCRAFT WOULD NEED TO BRING ITS OWN
SERVICING AND STARTING EQUIPMENT.

3. FUEL: THERE IS NO AIRCRAFT FUEL AT LUANGWA SOUTH.
THERE IS A LIMITED SUPPLY OF AVIATION FUEL AT CHIPATA
(ABOUT 90 MILES EAST), BUT NO JET FUEL. CHIPATA CAN TAKE
NO REPEAT NO JET AIRCRAFT, ONLY HAWKER SIDLEY 748-TYPE
PROPS.

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PAGE 02 LUSAKA 02814 111541Z

4. ROADS: WITH THE WEATHER BEING DRY, ROADS FROM LUANGWA
SOUTH AIRPORT TO MFUWE LODGE AND ON TO CHICHELE ARE
ALL IN GOOD CONDITION AND CAN BE EXPECTED TO REMAIN SO.
DRIVING TIME FROM AIRPORT TO MFUWE IS ABOUT 20 MINUTES ON
A PAVED ROAD, AND ANOTHER 30 MINUTES ON A GOOD DIRT ROAD
FROM MFUWE TO CHICHELE.

5. VEHICLES: SOME VEHICLES, INCLUDING A 20-SEAT MINIBUS, MIGHT BE AVAILABLE FROM ZAMBIA NATIONAL TOURIST BUREAU (ZNTB). BOTH EMBASSY AND BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION HAVE A NUMBER OF VEHICLES WHICH COULD BE USED AT CONFERENCE. OTHER VEHICLES WOULD HAVE TO BE RENTED FROM LOCAL AGENCIES. SEDANS WOULD BE SUITABLE GIVEN EXPECTED ROAD CONDITIONS. GAS IS AVAILABLE AT LODGES.

6. ACCOMMODATIONS: CHICHELE LODGE WOULD BE AN ACCEPTABLE VENUE FROM THE LOGISTICAL POINT OF VIEW. THE LODGE COMPLEX HAS 36 BEDS, INCLUDING THE PRESIDENTIAL SUITE. ROOMS RANGE WIDELY IN SIZE AND QUALITY. DINING ROOM WOULD BE TOO SMALL TO ACCOMMODATE ALL THE PARTICIPANTS AT ONE TIME, BUT MAIN SITTING ROOM IS SUFFICIENTLY LARGE TO HOLD THE CONFERENCE. ALTHOUGH OF A LOWER STANDARD, MFUWE LODGE HAS 32 BEDS AND IS WITHIN 30 MINUTE DRIVE OF CHICHELE.

7. COMMUNICATIONS: THERE IS NO TELEPHONE AT CHICHELE. ONLY COMMUNICATION FACILITY IS RADIO-TELEPHONE FROM LODGE TO ZNTB OFFICES IN LUSAKA. ANY COMMO EQUIPMENT BROUGHT TO CHICHELE SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE SUFFICIENT GENERATORS.

8. ELECTRICITY: CHICHELE AND MFUWE BOTH HAVE DIESEL-FUELED GENERATORS ADEQUATE FOR NORMAL TOURIST SEASON NEEDS. THERE ARE OCCASIONAL BREAKDOWNS AND SUPPLY OF
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PAGE 03 LUSAKA 02814 111541Z

DIESEL FUEL IS SOMETIMES SHORT.

9. WATER AND FOOD: WATER SUPPLY IS SATISFACTORY BUT PUMPING EQUIPMENT HAS BROKEN DOWN AT LEAST TWICE DURING THE PAST YEAR. FOOD COULD BE A PROBLEM AT CONFERENCE, BUT ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT PRESUMABLY WOULD SEE TO IT THAT THERE WOULD BE SUFFICIENT SUPPLIES AVAILABLE.
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